



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

REFLECTOR



2050 Hammonds Plains Road
Hammonds Plains, NS
B4B 1P3

February 2022, Volume 83 Number 2
club web site is www.halifax-arc.org



TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP All full members will also be NSARA members

HARC Club Station phone number - 902-490-6421

Executive

President - Brian Allen, VA1CC	489-4656	basailor@eastlink.ca
First V.P. – Jason Ingraham, VE1PYE	292-9924	VE1PYE@bellaliant.net
2nd V.P. - VACANT		
Secretary - Roger Stein, VA1RST	403-3738	burch.craft@gmail.com
Treasurer - Bill Simm, VA1ALW		williamrham@live.ca
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Station Manager: - Don Trotter, VE1DTR		don_trotter@hotmail.com
Past President - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567	bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca
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Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Government & Media Relations - Gary Murphy VA1GGM	461-9416	garygmurphy@gmail.com
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EMO Coordinator - David George, VE1AJP	466-8723	dgeorge@dal.ca
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Web site content Manager - John Bignell, VE1JMB		johnmbignell@gmail.com
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2022 Flea Market Chair – John Bignell, VE1JMB		johnmbignell@gmail.com
2022 Field Day Coordinator Vacant		
Safety Officer - Malcolm MacDonald, VA1MMD		malcolmmd1@gmail.com
VA1MMA Project Manager - Dick Grantham, VE1AI		rgrantham@ns.sympatico.ca
NSARA Director - Jason Ingraham, VE1PYE	292-9924	VE1PYE@bellaliant.net
Honorary Legal Counsel – Paul Radford, VE1ARH		

Non Club Contacts

RAC Atlantic Director - Al Penny, VO1NO	dir.atlantic@rac.ca
RAC Section Manager – Dave Hull, VE1HUL	d.hull@ns.sympatico.ca
RAC Assistant Director for HRM - John Bignel, VE1JMB	johnmbignell@gmail.com

Take-15 Net Controllers

This will be the rotation. We need more net controllers.



If you want to join, let Bill Elliott, VE1MR, know.

Feb. 13	Cam	VE1BIT
Feb. 20	Bill	VA1ALW
Feb. 27	Cam	VE1BIT
March 6	Bill	VA1ALW
March 13	Cam	VE1BIT

ATTENTION

We are in desperate need of net controllers. The executive is very disappointed that more HATS members have not volunteered to do this simple task. The net generally takes about 20 minutes on a Sunday evening and is excellent practice for running an emergency net. Contact Bill, VE1MR if you want to join the list: bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

All phone numbers must be preceded by area code 902 when dialling, unless otherwise indicated

The **February 2022 General Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday February 16 at 1900.

The method (**virtual**) and time will be sent in an e-mail. Check your e-mail for details as the date approaches. Also check the web site for any other updates. **Currently there is limited access to Station 50.**

Guests are welcome but need to send an e-mail to the club to be able to be on the ZOOM invitee list.

Deadline for submissions to the March 2022 Reflector is Saturday March. 5, 2022

Notice of Motion

There has been a nomination for 2nd Vice President. Ritchie Long, VE1RL/VE1RLP has been nominated and an election will take place at the February meeting. Bio and other information is elsewhere.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Sunday evenings:
TAKE-15 NET at 8:30 PM

CLUB REPEATERS:

VE1PSR - 147.270 MHz + TX=82.5
VE1PSR/UHF - 444.350 MHz +
VE1PSR/6M - 53.550 MHz -
access and TX tone 151.4 Hz
VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz - TX=82.5

PACKET: VE1NSD 145.050 MHz
LAN NODE

NOTICE

The January Reflector had several errors and consequently the November 17, 2021 General Meeting Minutes are printed in this Reflector to be voted for acceptance in February.

Due to the global pandemic most if not all events have been cancelled. See page 2 for coming events. You can also read about possible alternatives for some events in the following pages.

Are you up to date with your HARC membership dues?

Yearly rates are:

Full = \$30

Associate = \$20

Family (2 members) = \$50 + \$20 for each additional family member at the same address (receive only 1 newsletter). Use the Membership form on page 10 of this Reflector or Go to the HARC website or contact Membership Chair.

OPERATING EVENTS

If you are wondering about what to do on the air besides casual conversation and might be working toward an award or chasing DX, one of the ways to make those contacts is to play in contests. The following link will list almost all if not all contests during the coming year. You can customize your search in many ways including some of the modes you may have a particular interest in.

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

HARC ZOOM Meetings

It has been great to see the attendance each 3rd Wednesday of each month at our HARC Zoom meetings. As good as they have been, I think there is now time for change.

Hopefully we are moving towards returning to in person meetings, sometime in the next 12 months or so. Let's be optimistic and hold onto that thought. We all miss our face to face social contacts and even more so for those who come to the meetings to enjoy the chat sessions before the meeting, chatting with your friends old and new, often with the benefit of gaining new info on such things as hints on some technical issue or operating tip, whateverour hobby is extremely diverse.

Diversity is exactly what brought me to write this note for the Reflector.

I can vividly recall the voice of one of HARC's long standing former members, Doug Johnson VE1OM, who never missed a meeting that I know of, and often, Doug would stand and give a little talk about the "diversity of Amateur Radio" and that we should all strive to be "well rounded Amateurs". Do not get bogged down in just one aspect of our wonderful, enjoyable hobby. Get out there and experiment, try a different band, different mode, explore the experience of something new. Doug became a silent key many years ago. Throughout his life he was always a very strong supporter of, what was then called, "civil defense", he loved field day and all things relating to emergency communications and preparedness. However,

SMART 2022

This is being sent to all amateur radio organizations in the Atlantic area.

Planning for SMART 2022 is ongoing and all we need is for the pandemic to cooperate.

Several individuals have volunteered to do a good cross section of presentations.

We've had a request for a session on wire antennas, chokes and baluns.

Recommendations on who could develop a presentation on this subject would be welcome.

The schedule in the link below has been modified from past years.

<https://www.westcumb.ca/s-m-a-r-t-2022>

Happy New Year!

George Dewar - dewarg@bellaliant.net
Or vy2gf@rac.ca

he was indeed a well rounded amateur, active on the HF bands, 6 meters, traffic nets, dabbling in contesting, DXing, etc.

It has been my observation that our meetings have, perhaps lost a bit of sight on that great word diversity. I believe it is time to expand our attention a bit with the revitalization of some short talks on various topic of our hobby that would be beneficial to all.

Scott, VE1QD put out a call at our last zoom meeting, for someone to replace him as the "entertainment chairman". Scott has done an outstanding job on this for a very long time. I hear that the seed he planted is taking route and may bear fruit in the near term. That is wonderful.

We must not lose sight of diversity. It keeps us broad, sharp and ready to expand. For example; we have a wonderful two way relationship with such organizations as EMO. We support them and the support is mutual; but again it is not our only focus, nor is it our only activity by any means. Quite often we get bogged down trying to solve issues during the meeting. Committees work on solving problems. The purpose of meetings is to report on the progress of projects and issues, and also to assign tasks.

Therefore I am proposing a slight change in meeting format, that we limit the business portion of the meeting to a maximum of 30 minutes, followed by some sort of informative talk on an amateur related topic. We used this format in the past and it worked well. What do you think?

Dick Grantham, VE1AI

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE for February, 2022

Hello and welcome to this month's reflector for February 2022. I trust this note finds everyone well, covid free and ready to move forward when things improve to enable us to be together again. It is good to remain positive in that this disease will end soon to the point life can return to some normalcy even if it is not yet 100% or may never be as we knew it.

I have received calls and letters about our Zoom meetings regarding the length and content of the meetings. So based on that feedback I am going to try to make our meetings shorter in length by conducting the business portion inside of 45 minutes thus allowing our entertainment portion to last approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour in length. We hope to elect a candidate for 2nd VP at this meeting to be entertainment coordinator. Reports by individuals will be kept short and to the point. I would still like to have the round table as this is your turn to participate in the club so that I get to hear concerns, information and ideas that you may have. After all, this is your club and information should flow freely between your executive and you the membership.

Activities remain in a hold pattern as weather has been our major setback, that is for antenna work at Cowie Hill and Station 50 tower install. We have had a major snowstorm every weekend this past month. Don, VE1DTR is working hard to secure new pc equipment for the club as well as finalizing the remote station setup so that people can access this facility at the club. Updates on EMO ACTIVITIES such as safety equipment inspection, the possible purchase of high angle rescue equipment and card access info will be brought up at the meeting as an update - I do not have that info at time of writing.

Propagation numbers have dramatically improved with numbers well over 100 but at times the K FACTOR is high well (above 7 out to 27) as well limiting propagation and creating a higher noise level. There are many good contests on the next few weekends as shown on the WA7BNM WEBSITE, or in QST magazine. Radio seems to have come alive as we move into cycle 25 and the numbers are showing that strong indication. Lots to do when the snow flies and you are house bound whether it is contests or FT8 or cw and even satellite communications. Amateur radio is proving to be a life saver for its operators as it gives us a reason to get on the air to preserve our mental acuteness in these times of stress partly brought on by COVID.

As you see in the Reflector we are striving to improve our meetings by having a shorter business portion by having entertainment and having a focus on Amateur radio. We are also striving to have future events that focus on radio and its benefits to club members. Hopefully we can put on events or even get back to what we used to do in past years, flea markets and Field Days, the museum and so on. Please consider topics for Scott's presenters as this will come up at the meeting, so have some things in mind so they can start to have regular presenters on a variety of topics that interest you.

For those of you who sent me their card info, THANKYOU, for those of you who have not done so yet, please text me the info ASAP PLEASE, MY NUMBER IS 902-489-4656, for security reasons, e-mails are not a good idea, however texts appear to be the way to go to preserve the integrity of your info. You will have noticed that Gary Murphy (HATS) and Dave George (SARS/EMO) asked for the same info and this is due to the fact that many of us have different access to different facilities and HRM NEEDS to know who has access to what. I need this info as it applies to ALL HARC MEMBERS.

You will see that I have asked for replies to the question of a 90th Anniversary event, please take the time to respond as once again as this is your feed back to me on what you feel is important to you and the club as a whole. The second part is whether you would help out to make this event a success, we would need maybe a committee of 10 to cover off all the tasks involved in putting on this event.

Please be prepared to vote on the 2nd VP position that is currently vacant. The bio of our prospect is included in the Reflector and we need your concurrence to make it happen for him. In this position he will head up the entertainment committee with the assistance of Scott Wood, VE1QD for a period of time until he feels comfortable doing that important work for the club. Thank you Scott for your continued support of club activities and being a mentor .

Well, that about covers everything I wanted to bring to your attention for this month. We have a lot going on and you are part of this movement to improve our club and it's importance to the community. I welcome all suggestions that you may have on topics for discussion, club events, projects and anything else you feel the membership can benefit from.

BE SAFE- GOOD DX- and above all else, have FUN with your radio experience, life is short but the rewards are for a life time.

73 – Respectfully submitted - Brian Allen, VA1CC, President of the HARC

**Press Release: For Immediate Release**

QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo March 12-13, 2022 – Save The Date!

Our next QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo will be held live from March 12-13, and then on-demand for 30 days afterwards. We promise an amazing learning and networking experience to help you improve your knowledge and get exposed to new ideas, equipment, and practical techniques. No need to travel - participate from your home or office! Information can be found at <https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com>.

Here's why this is a "must attend" event:

Listen, engage with 60+ internationally recognized ham radio luminaries. Our speakers are experts and deeply know their material. Most importantly, they've worked hard to make sure that you'll understand the material and can apply it immediately to your projects.

So, so many different topics - everybody will find something of high value. There's content for everyone whether a newly licensed ham looking for next steps to using that license or a 30+ year experienced ham looking for new projects. Some of the more interesting presentations include: Core HF Communication Concepts: Fundamentals of Shortwave Propagation; Deep Dive of An FPGA DVB-S2 Implementation; Fun With The NanoVNA; and Helically Wound Vertical for 160M.

Watch as many presentations as you want! A big limitation of in-person events is that you can't watch many of the presentations (you can only be in one room at a time). At the Expo, return anytime within 30 days to listen to any Live speakers you missed as well as explore exhibitor offerings.

Check out our live Kumospace video lounges for attendees to interact with each other and exhibitors. At the Expo we'll debut exciting but proven technology to further improve the live video interaction experience with exhibitors and fellow operators. You'll find this is a great way to meet

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HARC FEBRUARY 16, 2022 MEETING AGENDA

Welcome:

Acceptance of the February Agenda:

Motion by:
Second by:
Carried: yes no

Acceptance of minutes for November 2021:

Motion by:
Second by:
Carried: yes no

Acceptance of the January 2022 General Meeting Minutes:

Motion by:
Second by:
Carried: yes no

Silent keys:

A. William "Bill" Anderson, VE9UH - Sackville, N.B. Jan. 28/22
Brent B. Haddon, VE1BH – Chipman, N.B. January 24/22
David B. Boutilier, VE1DB – Sydney Mines, NS. January 24/22
DR. W. Donald Macaulay, VE1AXI – Fredericton NB. January 22/22
William "Bill" DURANT, VE9JMP – Sackville, N.B. January 22/22

President's Report - Brian, VA1CC:

Correspondence:

4 memberships forwarded to the Treasurer from mail at the Club

Treasurer's Report:- Bill, VA1ALW

Motion by: BILL, VE1ALW to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented
Second by:
Carried by: yes no

Station Manager's Report: - Don, VE1DTR

Equipment purchase
Remote station update

Education Report - Jason, VE1PYE

HATS Report: - Gary Murphy, VE1GGM

SARS Report: - David George, VE1AJP

MOTION: As presented in the Reflector, election for the position of 2nd Vice President - nominated, Ritchie Long, VE1RPL/VE1RL.

Nomination to elect 2nd Vice President for HARC by:
Second by:
Carried: yes no

Call for nominations from the floor: Roger, VA1RST

Old Business:

Station 50 fold-over tower install – N/C

Cowie Hill antenna work - N/C

Cowie Hill repeater building update – N/C

Safety equipment / high angle rescue equipment

New Business:

Insurance investigation - on going
Membership card station access
Climber's course 2022 - TBD
HARC 90th anniversary discussion/comments (1933 - 2023)

Round table:

Adjournment at:

**Halifax Amateur Radio Club
Virtual General Meeting Minutes
17 November 2021**

1. Welcome to the HARC virtual Zoom monthly meeting for November 17, 2021: The virtual meeting was called to order by President VA1CC Brian at approximately 1910. The Annual General Meeting will follow this meeting.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda:

A request was made to accept the November agenda. Tim, VA1TIM moved for the agenda to be accepted, Scott, VE1QD seconded. The motion was approved virtually, 29/0.

3. Approval of the Minutes for October 2021 as printed in the Reflector: A motion was made by Dick, VE1AI to approve the minutes, seconded by Don. VE1DTR. The motion was approved virtually, 30/0.

4. Report of any Silent Keys:

The following amateurs in the Maritimes have passed since the last club meeting of 20 October 2021.

Charles "Chic" Harvey ex VE1AIQ November 16th, 2021 Middleton NS Karl Wolff, VE9BBA

Nov. 14th, 2021 Quispamsis NB

William A. "Al" Young, VA1SIG/
VE1UV Nov. 4th, 2021 Truro NS

Harry B. Vaughan, VE1HBV

October 28th, 2021 Bible Hill NS

Robert "Bob" Tuttle, VE1DR

Oct. 24, 2021 Pugwash Junction NS

Willis C. Kinsman, VE1XY

October 23rd, 2021 Bridgetown NS

Additional information can be viewed at: maritimeamateur.ca

5. Correspondence:

Nothing to report.

6. President's Report:

Brian, VA1CC posed the question if the members would be in favor of a Christmas Party dinner at a restaurant and be willing to provide vaccination information and photo ID as required by Nova Scotia Covid rules?

Discussion followed, smaller groups of individuals, < 25, may choose to get together

independent of the Club. The final poll 3 in favor, 25 against. Let's hope for a better situation next year!

7. Treasurer's Report:

Bill, VA1ALW reported the financial activity for the month of October and gave a detailed report of the monthly income and expenses as well as reporting the opening balance and closing balance for the month.

Bill VA1ALW moved to have the financial report accepted. The motion was seconded by Scott VE1QD. no nays reported, report accepted, 28/0.

8. Station Managers Report:

Don, VE1DTR has a report that will be given at the AGM to follow this meeting.

9. Education/Membership Report:

Jason, VE1PYE reported no inquiries, if there are they are shuffled over to the RAC Basic course.

10. HATS/SAR report:

Dave, VE1AJP reported that Search and Rescue had a call out for a small boy that was safely back at home the next morning. SAR will be participating in the Parade of Lights!

11. Old Business:

Cowie Hill Tower and Repeater Building conditions were reviewed with Don Mosher, HRM EMO co-ordinator. The antenna and feedline replacement plan was gone over for future execution pending plans and safety procedures presented. The building deficiencies will be addressed next year, 2022 or 23. The Station 50 tower base installation funding has been approved and will go forward.

The club safety gear is being upgraded and added to be in compliance with current regulations. Thank you Malcolm!

12. New Business:

Insurance: The Club insurance has been renewed with the current carrier and is now active.

Club Website: A new Web Page will be launched in January per John, VE1JMB with assistance from Jeremy, VE1LAI. A temporary page will be available while the upgrade is being done.

The Annual General Meeting will follow this meeting.

A new QSL Bureau Manager has

stepped forward as Murray, VE1BB will be stepping down, Roger, VA1RST will be meeting with Murray for a transfer of knowledge and the goods! Thanks to Murray for handling the Brit Fadder memorial QSL Bureau these past years. Thank you Roger for volunteering.

Brian put out a request for a Membership Chairman to support the club in the days ahead. Dues can be paid by e-transfer or by mail direct to Bill, VA1ALW as getting to the Club mail at Station 50 is still difficult with Covid restrictions. The Club website will have the information on the temporary web page and also will be in the next Reflector to come out in January. Please update your information as required.

Tim, VA1TIM stepped forward to be Membership Chair!

Dave, VE1AJP reported the IRLP node has been moved to the Killam Library, in great detail! A rather crowded, compact server room he said! Thanks to all who participated with the move.

Malcolm, VA1MMD Safety Chairman confirmed that the Club climbing gear is out for inspection, new helmets were procured and a couple of new lanyards are on hand, still looking for the gin pole.

Dick, VE1AI reported the new Ham Help committee has been formed, has a tower to remove, a climbing need and are now on standby.

Brian reported there is a need for operator participation in several areas however the participation is all indoors so Covid needs to be resolved, Flea Market, Maritime Museum, Field Day and so on!

The Look Off Rally went well and had sufficient operators on hand! Thanks for the information Ian and Jason.

There was a request for Mesh Network information from Bill, VE1WPS.

13. Motion for Adjournment:

Dick VE1AI motioned to adjourn, approx 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Roger Stein, VA1RST, HARC Secretary

**Halifax Amateur Radio Club
Virtual General Meeting Minutes
19 January 2022**

1. Welcome to the HARC virtual Zoom monthly meeting for January 19, 2022: The virtual meeting was called to order by President VA1CC Brian at approximately 1910.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda:

A request was made to accept the January agenda. Tim, VA1TIM moved for the agenda to be accepted. Ritchie, VE1RPL seconded. The motion was approved virtually, 26/28.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

The approval of minutes was tabled until the February meeting as the wrong November year's minutes were in the Reflector, quite by accident!

4. Report of any Silent Keys:

The following amateurs in the Maritimes have passed since the last club meeting of 17 November 2021.

Allan C. Bentley, VE1AAB

January 13th, 2022, Truro NS

Claude G. Williams, VE9YB

January 3rd, 2022, Sussex NB

Edward S. (Steve) McLay, VE1ESM

Dec. 30th, 2021, St. Stephens NB

Peter Gould, VE9PJ

December 16th, 2021, Moncton NB

Richard "Rick" Hull, VE1DLH/VE1GK

Dec. 16th, 2021, Bible Hill NS

Leonard W. Leitch, VE1AFK

Dec. 12th, 2021, Dartmouth NS

Barrie I. Nickerson, VE1BIN

December 9th, 2021, Kentville NS

Delbert "Delly" Mason, VE9DEL

December 9th, 2021, Saint John NB

James F. Jeffrey, VE9HH

December 5th, 2021, Rothesay NB

Edward "Bob" Perry, VE1EDP

November 30th, 2021, Amherst NS

Robert E. Delong, VE1AOI

Nov. 27th, 2021, Liverpool NS

Pauline Gaudet, ex VE1ADN

Nov. 26th, 2021, Saint Bernard NS

Additional information can be viewed at: maritimeamateur.ca

5. Correspondence: Nothing to report.

6. President's Report:

Brian, VA1CC reported that the ongoing Covid pandemic once again kept the Club from having a Christmas

Party dinner. Let's hope for a better situation next year!

Next Brian requested that each HARC member with an HRM issued photo ID submit to Brian

- 1). the name as printed on the badge,
 - 2). the 5 digit number on the badge
 - 3). the month/year expiration date.
- You can either phone or text Brian at 902-489-4656. this data is being collected from all HRM volunteer personnel. Thank you for your cooperation.

7. Treasurer's Report:

Bill, VA1ALW reported for the months of November and December and gave a detailed report of the monthly income and expenses as well as reporting the opening balance and closing balance for each month.

Bill, VA1ALW moved to accept the November and December financials, Bill, VE1MR seconded, the motion passed.

8. Education Report:

Jason, VE1PYE reported several inquiries and he shuffled them over to the RAC Basic course that will begin soon. Dick VE1AI reported on the CW course stating that it went very well with all making good progress. Dick wanted to note one 'Rising Star' that was Gord, VE1GVY. Gord entered the ARRL Rookie Roundup contest scoring over 1400 points. For his effort he received the ARRL Certificate for #1 in Canada! Congrats Gord!

9. HATS/SAR report:

SAR report given by Dave, VE1AJP noted continuing call outs for dementia and alzheimers individuals. Dave reported that they have the use of a new system called RPAS, Remote Piloted Aircraft System. They are no longer referred to as Drones! The RPAS units can be programmed to cover specific coordinates gathering data and return to be downloaded. Once viewed on screen any item of interest can generate location coordinates. Then, SAR units can be dispatched to investigate, guided by their handheld GPS units. Awesome!

Second item, side scan sonar units are now available for water vessel operations.

Finally, Erika has coordinated with SARs to provide health checks on the known homeless population in HRM ahead of inclement weather events. A

rapport is being established with these folks and they are provided with food, blankets and water.

10. Station Managers Report:

Don, VE1DTR reported on the final touches are being put on the remote station documentation, 20 pages in all. There are a lot of bits and pieces for all the gear to communicate properly! This was not a 'Plug n Play' operation.

11. Old Business:

Second reading of the 2022 Budget: Bill, VE1MR detailed the proposed income for the new budget year at \$11,160, proposed expense at \$28,835, opening balance at \$19,771.44 and an ending balance at \$2096. Actual line items were reviewed and are elsewhere in the Reflector. Bill VE1MR made the motion, this being the required second reading of the Budget, to adopt the Budget for the 2022 fiscal year. Tim, VA1TIM seconded. The motion carried 28/0.

Station 50 Antenna Tower install update: The concrete base is installed with anchor bolts ready to receive the new tower. A tower work party has plenty of volunteers, thanks! A date and time will be established in the future with notification provided in advance to HRM EMO.

Remote Station Set Up: Don, VE1DTR reported the final touches have been put on the documentation, about 20 pages total! there are a lot of bits and pieces to get all the gear to communicate. A couple of network issues need to be resolved due to some power interruptions of late. Sign ups will begin soon! Thanks to Don, VE1DTR, Fraser, VE1WO, and Greg, VE1GFX.

Cowie Hill Tower Antenna Work: On hold awaiting better weather. A Zoom boom will be supplied by EMO, please provide a projected date to EMO when the time comes, April-May, thank you!

Cowie Hill Repeater Building: Repeater Building conditions were reviewed with Don Mosher, HRM stated the caulking was applied around the AC unit to stop the water ingress. Floor reinforcement is planned, the date is not nailed down.

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Club safety gear inspection: It is in Don Mosher's garage waiting for inspection.

High Angle Rescue Gear: Don Mosher EMO and Malcolm, VA1MMD are investigating.

Club Laptop and Desktop PC Update: Don, VE1DTR reported the right opportunity for 5 laptops and 3 desktops is still being sought after both online and local, Brilliance, Two Bad Cats and others. These are to be Windows 11 capable machines.

12. New Business:

Motion: Send \$5.00 to NSARA for every Full Member of HARC, thus making each HARC member a member of NSARA and receive a membership card. Recommended by the HARC executive and so moved by Bill, VE1MR. The NSARA Financial statement will be included in the next Reflector. Seconded by Gord, VE1GVY. The NSARA maintains the Province wide repeater system This would replace the \$500 line item in the 2022 budget in response to a question from Dick, VE1AI. The motion carried 27/27.

13. Round Table:

Alastair, VE1PAB asked if Operation Handshake was done last month. Fraser, VE1WO responded no as it

was done the week before the last Tuesday in December.

There are still 900mHz radio issues at Dartmouth with EMO and they are looking at the antenna orientation. The squelch was set tight due to some interference. The radio needs to be delivered back to Bill, VE1MR to reset the radio to not have to use the Monitor button in order to receive.

Carolynn asked about Net operations on VHF to engage in some conversations. Bill, VE1MR directed her to the front page of the Reflector for the frequency listings.

Scott, VE1QD put in a pitch for a new Program Director for 2022 as he turned 85 this week and has been a ham for 70 years! Congrats! Scott will work with anyone who steps forward to establish their footing, aka the art of artful arm twisting!

Don Mosher EMO inquired as to the status of the HARC 90th Anniversary event planning committee being established, this will be in 2023. EMO wants to be part of the recognition of the volunteer effort.

Tim VA1TIM reported he received his grandfather's 2 letter call VE1XR! It was his grandfather's call back when HARC was a new club, 1933.

Roger, VA1RST new QSL Bureau Manager indicated that envelopes of cards will be hitting members' mailboxes before the next General meeting.

Bill, VE1MR made a pitch to move the communication trailer from his yard to the Cowie Hill secure yard. There is a trailer checklist to be followed.

Don Mosher EMO asked if the HARC go kits are being checked and Fraser, VE1WO stated they are checked every 3 months and there is a sheet in each box.

Malcolm, VA1MMD asked if the gin pole had been tracked down, Bill, VE1MR said it was in his yard.

Don Mosher EMO asked if the defective lightning arrestor had been identified. According to Brian, VA1CC reported it will take about an hour with a couple of people and the antenna analyzer to verify the faulty item. Don will then get it replaced.

Brian gave a DX operation update and sunspot levels.

13. Motion for Adjournment: Bill, VE1MR motioned to adjourn, approx 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Roger Stein, VA1RST, HARC Secretary

NSARA FINANCIAL REPORT

The last financial report was at the Annual General Meeting in October 2019 after the Greenwood Flea Market. There has been very little activity since October 2019.

Opening Balance February 28, 2020	\$2214.39
Bank service charges for 22 months	\$ 66.00
Expenses – includes site visits and parts	
Postage, Insurance, Registry of Joint Stocks	\$3147.20
Income – Dues and donations	\$2445.75
Closing Balance January 10, 2022	\$1446.94

Expenses also includes a bursary

Insurance 2020 = \$845, 2021= \$920

Postage includes mailing out NSARA Contest certificates since there were no in person gatherings in 2020 and 2021.

If anyone wants more detailed information please contact Shirley Cohoon the treasurer for additional information.

"The only mystery in life is why the kamikaze pilots wore helmets." – Al McGuire

HATS Update

This month we had a trial run of message handling on VE1PSR with a small number of folks just to work the kinks out and we will start doing larger groups.

As all of you can tell from the number of emails we are also working on the EMO and HATS paperwork. Getting the access cards squared away, Job descriptions, and ensuring that we have all the correct information for people.

A working group was struck to define the mission and goals of the Amateur Radio Advisory Committee to EMO and who should be sitting on that committee.

We have had one good storm this year with another pending. So far HRM has not had the need to open either warming or comfort centers so we have yet to be placed on standby. But it is always a great idea to charge your gear and check your kit bag just in case the call comes.

Thanks - Gary Murphy VA1GGM
phone: 902.461.9416 cell: 902.229.4658

31 Tremont Street, Dartmouth, NS, B2Y 1X1
garygmurphy@gmail.com

The NSARA Contest

Date: The contest will take place each year on the second Sunday in March. **For 2022 – the date will be March 6, 2022.**

Hours: The contest will run for EIGHT hours – two four hour sessions.

Morning Session: 08:00 AM EST – 12:00 PM EST

Afternoon Session: 02:00 PM EST – 06:00 PM EST

Operating Band: All contacts for contest credit will take place on the 80 Meter band within the allocation(s) guidelines of the Radio Amateurs of Canada 80M Band Plan. A PDF of the HF Band Plans can be found at:

<https://www.rac.ca/wp-content/uploads/files/pdf/RAC%20Bandplan%20December%201%202015.pdf>

- Phone contacts must occur in the PHONE allocation of the 80M band.
- CW contacts must occur in the CW portion of the 80M Band.
- Digital contacts must occur in the DIGITAL allocation of the 80M band.

Exchange:

Nova Scotia Stations will exchange: Call Sign, Signal Report, and County.

Non Nova Scotia stations will exchange: Call Sign, Signal report, and a contact number.

Nova Scotia Stations operating portable or mobile must make it clear they are portable or mobile. See Bonus Points

QSO Points:

Score one point per completed PHONE contact.

Score one point per completed CW contact.

Score one point per completed DIGITAL contact.

The same station can be logged on each mode (e.g. PHONE, CW, DIGITAL (PSK31, SSTV, RTTY etc.)) within the Band Plan Guidelines.

Multipliers:

The 18 counties of Nova Scotia will count as multipliers.

Any Amateur from anywhere can take part but only Nova Scotia Counties will count as multipliers.

Each multiplier may be counted once on each mode.

Bonus Points: Added to score after QSO Points X Multipliers

ALL stations: A bonus of 10 points will be awarded for each “ROVER” or “FIELD DAY” type station worked.

The BONUS is awarded for each mode worked with each ROVER or FIELD DAY station.

ROVER or Portable stations: 100 BONUS points awarded for each county worked from.

Scoring Example:

Phone QSOs = 61

Multipliers = 15

Total = 915

Bonus Points = 250 (5 Portable or Rover stations worked, plus you gave mobile contacts from 2 counties)

Final Score = 1165

Categories (MODE):

The following 4 categories are eligible for certificates as detailed in the Awards section of the rules.

- PHONE
- CW
- DIGITAL (All digital modes excluding CW)
- MIXED MODE

Category notes:

1. Single Operator or Multi operator permitted.
2. Single Transmitter operation ONLY – with no restrictions on the number of operators.
3. Field Day or Rover type of portable operations to rare counties is encouraged, especially if BASIC operators are involved. See Bonus Points
4. The contents of a log that is submitted for a specific Category must reflect that Category. In the event of a conflict between the actual content of the log and the stated Category in other elements of the entry material, the actual contents of the log will be used to determine the Category of entry where possible. In the event this cannot be determined or in the event where a log does not identify the entry Category, the entry will be classified into the most advantageous Category.
5. An entrant who enters a specific Category (i.e. PHONE) but who also worked additional contacts outside that Category should try to mark (or highlight) the contacts they wish counted for their entry.
6. Each new multiplier in a Category must be clearly marked in the log.
7. Multipliers in a specific category entry will be counted for score only in that category.

Logging:

A separate log sheet should be kept for each MODE (Category) of transmission by Call Sign. The log must clearly indicate the MODE used for the contest contact.

The log must show:

- Station worked
- Time of contact (UTC or local)
- Mode
- Signal Report
- County, if the contact is with a NS station. OR a contact number for NON NS stations
- Claimed bonus points

Submit Logs: Contest Entrants will have one month (30 days) to submit logs after the contest ends.

Entries can be by paper log mailed in.

1 by E-Mail in plain text

2 electronically as an image or attachment on an E-Mail

Files must be submitted in plain ASCII/Text format or a generic spread sheet.

AWARDS:

Certificates: Anyone who makes 25 or more contacts (any mode) in the contest (regardless of the score), and submits a log, will receive a ‘Participation Certificate’. Stations making contacts with all 18 Nova Scotia counties (all modes) will have “Clean sweep” indicated on their certificates and they will also qualify for the NSARA WORKED ALL NOVA SCOTIA COUNTIES AWARD (WANSC) without QSL card submission.

Winners:

Winners (1st Place) will be recognized separately for Phone, CW, Digital and Mixed Mode. The winner will receive a certificate (suitable for framing) as well as having their photo on the NSARA web page and in TCA and local media if desired.

Nova Scotia County list for use in the NSARA Contest:

ANNAPOLIS	ANTIGONISH-
CAPE BRETON	COLCHESTER-
CUMBERLAND	DIGBY
GUYSBOROUGH	HALIFAX
HANTS	INVERNESS
KINGS	LUNENBURG
PICTOU	QUEENS
RICHMOND	SHELBURNE
VICTORIA	YARMOUTH

The list can be used to check off the counties as you work them. Some counties have a large number of Amateurs, while others have only one or two active Hams.

Contest Committee: The contest committee, comprised of NSARA Directors, will make the final decision in all matters regarding the contest. The contest committee encourages Clubs or other groups of Hams to do a Field Day type of operation during the contest.

There are no contest restrictions on who can operate using one Call Sign, so a MULTI SINGLE type of operation is encouraged, especially if BASIC level Hams are involved. This contest experience may encourage them to pass the CW license requirements as well as experimenting with some of the new modes such as PSK31 or SSTV.

Send Logs to:

NSARA Contest Coordinator

Peter J. Surette

20 Dresden Way

Debert, NS, B0M 1G0

Or e-mail them to: ve1pjs@rac.ca

Or to ve1pjs@eastlink.ca

From the Mail Bag**From: K. Scott Wood, VE1QD**Introduction

For some time HARC has been searching for an Entertainment/ Program Coordinator, a function that has normally been the responsibility of the Second VP. However, this executive position has been vacant the past 3 years. Dating from my time as HARC President (November 2012 – November 14), I have organized the monthly meeting programs, but do not wish to continue carrying the responsibility.

I am pleased to report that a very able and well-prepared member of the Club has offered to assume this position, namely Ritchie Long, VE1RL/VE1RLP. I have received a second offer of help from Ken Asprey, VE1PDL. I would like to bring him aboard as a member of the Entertainment/Program Committee.

Brief Biographies,

Ritchie Long is an electrical engineer who worked for several communications companies in various places such as Halifax, Ottawa and Calgary. He and his wife returned to Nova Scotia in August 2020.

He noted in communications with me that: "...my hobby of amateur radio and career tie closely together."

Ritchie has been interested in amateur radio, and a tinker/builder as a youngster. He got his amateur radio certification in 1992, when he took the exam through our Club. He holds both a basic and advanced certification with a CW endorsement.

He told me that his interest in the hobby is more about technology and different modes of operation than contesting or DXing. He is also playing with SSTV and digital modes, including FT-8 and BPSK-31.

Ken Asprey graduated in Geology from Saint Mary's University. He is

relatively new to amateur radio having passed the qualifying Basic Exam with honours in 2017 following completion of the HARC Basic Course.

Ken worked at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography as a Marine Technologist and worked in all phases of marine Geology. He had a lot of experience in organizing and running "Talks and Seminars".

Recommendation and Executive Action

It is my recommendation that Ritchie Long, VE1RL/VE1RPL, be nominated for the position of Second VP which effectively puts him in charge of entertainment and programs.

I further recommend that Ken Asprey, VE1PDL be appointed to the Entertainment and Program Committee chaired by the Second VP.

I am willing to serve on the Committee as an advisor or resource person until Ritchie and Ken have mastered the job.

Scott

2021 RAC Winter Contest

As in most RAC Winter Contests since about 2005, a small group of hams operated from Fred VE1FA and Helen's VA1YL's station in Canard, NS. This time Wayne, VE1BAB, Bob, VE1RSM, Fred, and Helen were the group. The station used two previously very reliable antennas for the contest: a 486' horizontal loop at 52' and a Moseley CL-33 tri-bander at 54'. On Dec. 18 at 8:00 PM local (00:00Z) we began. About 45 minutes into the contest it became clear that the big loop wasn't right (horrible SWR, with the station circuit breaker and GFI tripping), and it couldn't be fixed in the cold, high wind, and darkness, so VE1RAC went QRT.

The next morning's light revealed that the longest leg of the loop (200') had parted from the feedpoint and was energizing the tennis court fence. Wayne and Bob returned and the team repaired the broken wire, and re-raised the loop to 52'. Having lost so much time we decided to abandon the contest. However, later, in the final 8 hours of the contest VA1YL and VE1FA decided to pick up a few more QSOs. The final tally was 626 QSOs, 38 sections, and 150,632 points. We had contacts on all contest bands from 2-160m. Not a big score, but, as always, an enjoyable contest, meeting old friends and hearing the pleasure with which contesters worked a RAC station!

de Fred VE1FA

(Continued from page 4)

up with friends, talk to vendors, and network on specific subject areas.

Take advantage of our calendar technology to efficiently organize your time. You can download speaker times in your local time zone directly to your Google or Outlook calendar. You'll then have a complete schedule of sessions to join to maximize your time during the Live period with speakers that are the most important.

ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio®, is a QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo Partner. FlexRadio is the Expo's Platinum Sponsor, Elecraft is our Gold sponsor as of this time.

Early Bird Tickets go on sale February 1, 2022, and are just \$10 (through March 6) and then \$13.50 to the end of the on-demand period. Tickets include entry for the Live 2 day event and the 30 day on-demand period. Save on gas, lodging, and transit time to attend the QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo on March 12 and 13.

For more information, go to <https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com>. Make sure to put the March 12-13, 2022 dates on your calendar!

Press contact:

Brad Grob

brad@qsotodayhamexpo.com

+1-323-933-3950

Membership Registration Process

Membership may be initiated or renewed using any of the following methods:

(1) Download and save our new Fillable PDF membership form to your computer. Then open it using Adobe Reader (which you can download for free from their website), or other PDF Reader then fill in the form and print a copy and mail it along with appropriate cheque payment to our postal address. Halifax Amateur Radio Club

2050 Hammonds Plains Road
Canada B4B 1P3
Attention: Membership chair

(2) **Interac e-Transfer** The process to do an Interac e-Transfer is as follows:

- Download and save our fillable membership application form to your computer. Then open it in your PDF reader - we recommend Adobe Reader; fill it in and save it to your computer. Then, e-mail a copy of your completed mem-

bership application form to membership@halifax-arc.org
Please be sure to indicate on the form that you are paying by Interac e-money transfer.

- Then, go to your on-line banking site and send an Interac e-money transfer to treasurer@halifax-arc.org . e-Transfers are automatically deposited in the HARC bank account
- The Treasurer will confirm receipt of the funds with you and will notify the Membership Chair.
- The Membership Chair will then issue a 2022 e-Membership Card by email confirming that your annual membership has been paid.

(3) Alternatively, you can come to one of our monthly club meetings and Membership Chair will be happy to renew your membership.

Do you have any inquiries or comments? Send us an email.

The membership year is from January 1 to December 31.

For membership year: _____

- Same address as last year
 New address

Are you a RAC Member (check one) YES NO

Please complete the following (as applicable).

E Mail Address: _____

First Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/Town: _____

Postal Code: _____

Call Sign: _____

Surname: _____

Province: _____

Telephone: _____

Membership options:

- Full Member, must be a licensed Amateur \$30.00
- Associate member (Non Voting) \$20.00
- Family membership \$30.00 + \$20.00 each additional licensed Amateur.

Name & Call of additional member: _____

Name & Call of additional member: _____

- I would prefer to have the newsletter mailed to my home **at an additional cost of \$10.00 to the regular membership fee structure above.**

Method of payment:

- e-Transfer Cheque Cash

Amount submitted \$ _____

All members receive the newsletter, which is also available on the HARC website.